UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/23776
2 April 1992
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/SPANISH

LETTER DATED 2 APRIL 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF VENEZUELA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency the text in Spanish of the Declaration of the Government of Venezuela, in regard to the violation to the diplomatic mission of Venzuela in Tripoli, on 2 April 1992.

I would greatly appreciate if Your Excellency distributed the text of the present letter and its annex as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Diego ARRIA
Ambassador of Venezuela
Permanent Representative to the
United Nations

92-15368 3073i (E) 020492

020492

/...

Annex

[Original: Spanish]

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs hereby informs public opinion that today, at 10.30 a.m. Libyan time, the administrative headquarters of the Venezuelan Embassy in Tripoli was attacked.

A mob consisting of students who had arrived in two buses and people from the street broke into the Embassy shouting slogans against Venezuela because of the latter's vote in the Security Council in favour of the anti-terrorist resolution on 31 March 1992. The mob then began to ransack and destroy the premises of our diplomatic representation. Neither the four Libyan guards assigned to protect the Embassy nor anyone from the police force of the city of Tripoli intervened to stop the looting and arson of the diplomatic premises, which were carried out with total impunity.

The members of the Venezuelan diplomatic staff, with whom this Ministry remains in contact through various channels, suffered no physical injury to speak of.

On the same date, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs delivered an official note to the representative of the Libyan Government in Venezuela to protest about the violation of the standards of protection for diplomatic premises which are laid down in the relevant international agreements, and to demand assurances guaranteeing the physical integrity of the Venezuelan diplomats accredited to Libya and the inviolability of the Venezuelan Embassy residence, together with an adequate official explanation of the incident in question within 48 hours.

Caracas, 2 April 1992